

## Giannaros, Elizabeth

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From: Susan Hoffman [bikc209@gmail.com]  
Sent: Saturday, February 20, 2010 3:35 PM  
To: Giannaros, Elizabeth  
Subject: HB-5161

Dear Connecticut General Assembly,

On behalf of ADVOCATES FOR GRANDPARENT GRANDCHILD CONNECTION, a 501(c) (3), we support HB 5161, "An act requiring the training of the staff of the Department of Children and Families on grandparent visitation rights."

Those employed in the field of children's services must remain cognizant of a child's emotional welfare as well as physical. An important part of a child's development is maintaining close attachments with grandparents, with whom they have formed a bond.

The more staff that is involved with children, the more vital the training and education about a child's emotional needs. Grandparents, second only to a parent should be the likely next of kin notified about a child's transition into the system, and should remain involved in the process.

Sincerely,  
Susan Hoffman

Susan Hoffman  
AFGGC  
bikc209@gmail.com  
[www.grandparentchildconnect.org](http://www.grandparentchildconnect.org)